

At the Cabinet session held on the 13th, Secretary Sherman presented a letter from Mr. Belmont and other members of the Syndicate respecting the House bill for the remonetization of silver, in which it was stated that the effect of such a radical revolution in the monetary system of the United States would be disastrous, and intimations were made that it would be impracticable to further conduct their operations in placing the new loan. The Senate Committee on Finance, at a special meeting, also heard arguments from a number of Eastern gentlemen representing banking and other financial interests in opposition to the passage of the bill. Representative Blaid and Senator Jones of Nevada were present and spoke in favor of the bill.

The War Department has issued an order taking off the next number of the Army Register all mention of battles of the rebellion. At present the name of each roster is preceded by names of the battles in which it has taken part, beginning in some cases with "early Indian wars," in others with the War of 1812 and running on through the War of the Rebellion. The present order erases all the latter and is "in the same spirit as the famous resolution introduced by Sumner, erasing names of battles of the rebellion from battle-flags of regiments."

The Postal Savings-bank bill introduced in the House by Mr. Phillips, of Kansas, provides that at each office where the Postmaster's salary is \$1,000, an application savings-bank shall be established. Deposits shall be received of as low an amount as 25 cents, the amount not to exceed \$200. It provides when \$25 dollars is deposited it shall bear 3 per cent. interest when placed subject to 10 days' notice before call, and it authorizes the issue of 3.65 bonds in denominations of \$25, \$50, \$100 and \$200, with coupons, payable every three months, which on demand shall be payable on amounts deposited when called. It provides for additional bonds for the Post-offices where such banks are established, and that the bonds may be increased from time to time, and leaves the execution of the provisions of the act with the Postmaster-General.

The Emperor of Brazil was so favorably impressed with the American narrow-gauge style of railroad that he has caused a contract to be made with Messrs. P. & T. Collins, of Pittsburg, for the construction of 180 miles of that kind of railroad, extending from the head of navigation on the Madeira River, a branch of the Amazon, to a point on the Marmore River, on the borders of Bolivia. A Pennsylvania iron company will furnish all the rails and other iron. The contract involves about \$5,000,000.

HON. WM. F. COOLBAUGH, President of the Union National Bank, Chicago, committed suicide on the morning of the 4th. The act was committed at the foot of the Douglas Monument. Life was extinct when the body was discovered, and an elegant pearl-handled, gold-mounted revolver, with which the fatal shot was evidently fired into the brain, lay by its side. Mr. Coolbaugh was 66 years old and a native of Pike County, Pa. He formerly resided in Burlington, Iowa, where he figured considerably as a politician, being at that time a Democrat of the Douglas school and an intimate friend and admirer of that gentleman. He was for eight years a member of the Iowa State Senate, and was the Democratic nominee for United States Senator against Harlan, by whom he was defeated. He had but recently returned from a tour in Europe. His suicide is ascribed solely to domestic troubles, and his private financial affairs, as well as those of the bank, are pronounced all straight.

Not the least important of the bills just introduced and which must be considered at this session of Congress (writes the New York Herald correspondent), is one providing for taking the ninth census and the apportionment of representation under it. It is claimed by the Southern members that to protect the New England and Middle States the Southern States were not properly canvassed for the last census, and they mean that this omission shall not be repeated in 1880. On the basis of a Representative for every 150,000 inhabitants, the State of Texas, now having but six members in the House, expects to be represented by twenty members in the Forty-seventh Congress. Missouri, Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota are

likewise calculating on an increased representation, while the Northern States will endeavor to keep their present number. Under the last apportionment, the representation in the House was increased just 50 members, from 42 to 292, and since then the trade has added one more to the number. As the Hall of Representatives is already seated to its utmost capacity, its enlargement before the new apportionment takes effect seems to be a matter of imperative necessity.

The official returns of the Pennsylvania election show that for Supreme Judge the Democratic candidate received 251,000; Republican, 244,480; Greenback, 41,582; Prohibition, 2,899. Democratic plurality, 6,520.

At Belmont, Warren County, Iowa, on the night of the 18th, three masked men attempted to rob the house of a farmer named Cadigan. One of the robbers effected an entrance, when he encountered Miss Cadigan, the farmer's daughter, who had been awakened by his proceedings. The robber without a word drew a revolver and pointed it at her. The brave girl instantly sprang towards him, caught the pistol, and pushed it down, when it was discharged, the ball entering her right breast. She tore off the man's mask and found his face blackened, so she did not recognize him. She then pushed him out of doors, when he fired again, the ball entering her hand. As he went out of the door another man outside said: "How do you like that?" The speaker she instantly recognized as a man named Proctor, who had several times visited their house and made inquiries as to whether her father had sold his crops, etc. Proctor was arrested the next day and fully identified by the dying girl, after which he was taken from the hands of the officers by a crowd of several hundred men and summarily hanged. His two accomplices had not been taken.

The Committee on the Mississippi Levees have practically decided to favorably report a bill for the construction of levees on the Mississippi River, in the States of Illinois, Tennessee, Arkansas, Kentucky, Mississippi and Louisiana, for which purpose \$45,000,000 will be guaranteed by the Government. A sinking and interest fund is to be provided by a land tax in the States benefited by the work and by tolls.

The annual report of Gen. Sherman shows that up to October 12 the regular army was composed of 24,501 officers and men, of which 20,601 were available for war, besides 570 Indian scouts. The General thinks that the army ought to be raised to 50,000, but, despairing of that, urges such legislation as will give us 25,000 men for regiments of the line.

The cotton returns of the Department of Agriculture made the first week in November compare the product in bales with the crop of last year, as follows: North Carolina, 91; South Carolina, 90; Georgia, 92; Florida, 97; Alabama, 105; Mississippi, 92; Louisiana, 97; Texas, 82; Arkansas, 110; Tennessee, 115. This indicates about 4 per cent. reduction of the aggregate of last year, if the future of picking should be as favorable as that of 1876.

A FINANCIAL crash was experienced at Reading, Pa., on the 16th. The Reading Savings Bank, with deposits aggregating \$1,000,000, closed its doors, and this was followed by the suspension of the banking house of Bushong & Brother and the Dime Savings Bank. Other failures are inevitable. The Reading Savings Bank had been carrying two large iron manufactories which were unable to meet their obligations. The managers say depositors will ultimately be paid in full, but much suffering to the poorer class is inevitable.

At a Republican Senatorial caucus, held on the 17th, the relations between the President and the Republican party leaders were again discussed, several Senators who had conversed with the President giving an expression of his views and policy. The President is reported as feeling assured that his Southern policy will promote the coalition of the old Whigs and various other elements opposed to the Democratic party in the South, and eventually secure six or eight Southern States to the Republicans. All the Senators present expressed themselves satisfied that the President was sincere in this belief, but all of them concurred in the opinion that the President's policy of appointing Democrats to office in the South is neither wise or sound.

GEN. PEDRO MARTINEZ, the Lerdo commander in Northern Mexico, has raised the standard of revolt and is now at the head of 1,000 men south of Laredo. Gens. Naranjo and Canales are concentrating their forces to crush out this formidable rebellion against the Diaz Government.

PERSONAL AND POLITICAL.

It was reported by telegraph from Paris on the 12th that the Pope had been taken with paralysis and could not utter a word. Later the Pope denied the truth of the report, and said that although the Pope was quite weak, he was able to give audience to several persons on the 13th.

A COMMITTEE of Republican Senators, headed by Mr. Edmunds, had a long conference with the President on the 10th, and it is understood, fully acquainted him with the general tone and sentiment of criticism expressed at the recent Senatorial caucus concerning various features of his policy.

COMMODORE VANDERBILT's will is being contested by Mrs. Le Bau, a daughter of the dead, hundred-millionaire, who was cut off with a pittance of \$500,000. She thinks her father was unduly influenced by his son, William H., who received the bulk of the fortune, and that there ought to be an equitable division of the property. This is a nuisance for the lawyers engaged, among whom are Judge Jere Black and Scott Lord for the plaintiff and Judge Comstock, Mr. Clifton, and the Schells, father and son, for the defense.

GEN. BUTLER, in a recent interview with a newspaper correspondent, said in reference to the President's Civil-service policy: "Think of it! Why, I don't know what it means. I haven't been able to learn what it means"—another smile—"and I am not in the habit of giving any opinion about matters whose meaning I don't know. The Lord probably never intended that I should be able to comprehend it, I suppose, because I have not yet been able to."

COLONEL PROT, of the Egyptian Army, is now visiting Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. He is a Colonel in the Khedive's army and Vice-Governor of the Territory of Sedon. He was sent to London by the Khedive to superintend the construction of a number of steamboats that are to be used on the lakes in the interior of that country. The Colonel was formerly connected with the United States Army, but has been in the service of the Khedive for the past six years.

CONGRESSMAN SMALLS and L. Cass Carpenter, of South Carolina, have both been tried before a Jury and found guilty of the charges preferred against them—the former of bribery and corruption and the latter of forgery.

GENERAL SHERMAN's official salary amounts to \$18,000, inclusive of the usual commutations for supplies.

The following additional nominations by the President were transmitted to the Senate on the 14th: Manuel Govin, of Florida; United States Consul at Leghorn; Edingham Lawrence, Collector of Customs for the District of New Orleans. Indian Agents—Samuel S. Ely, Otee Agency, Nebraska; Tsiah Lightner, Santee Agency, Nebraska; Jno. E. Pyle, Navajo Agency, New Mexico; Wm. H. Danielson, Fort Hall Agency, Idaho; Edwin A. Howard, Ponca Agency, Indian Territory; Francis H. Weaver, South Ute Agency, Colorado. Postmasters—Chauncey I. Filley, St. Louis; Alex. Reed, Toledo, O., and a number of others.

PONGA, the intelligent gorilla, in whom English scientists have taken so much interest, is dead.

MRS. EVELINE T. STUART, aged 24, wife of Robert Stuart, a wealthy and aristocratic New Yorker, committed suicide on the 12th by taking laudanum. The couple had been married only since April last, and it is believed that the unhappy wife was driven to the fatal act on account of her husband having become an habitual drunkard. The husband is the son of the late Lieut. Robert Stuart, of the United States Army.

THE CORONER's Jury in the case of Hon. Wm. F. Coolbaugh, the Chicago suicide, returned a verdict that deceased took his own life while in a fit of temporary insanity.

A MORTON Monumental Association has been formed in Indiana, with Gen. Lew. Wallace as President. Subscriptions to the amount of \$200,000 are solicited, and each school district in the State is to be organized and canvassed.

THE SECRETARY of War orders all employees, except Gen. Sherman and staff, to abstain from intoxicating beverages between 9 a. m. and 4 p. m.

ONE more election is to occur this year—in Georgia on the 5th of December, when the people are to vote upon the new Constitution and upon the location of the capital, and also elect a Legislature, which will choose a United States Senator.

GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN was witness in a suit at Philadelphia the other day, but grew so rampagous that the Judge ordered him to leave. He answered the usual question as to his occupation thus: "I am a loafer. I have no occupation. I sit ten hours a day in Madison Square as a bummer and loafer. I have no business."

MR. HARLAN is the third lawyer who has been appointed from the bar directly to the Supreme Bench, Joseph P. Bradley and David Davis being the other two.

COL. GEORGE S. BANGS, late General Superintendent of the Railway Mail Service, died at Washington on the 17th.

GEN. JAMES SHIELDS, of Missouri, the Mexican veteran, was received at Boston on the 17th by the city militia and escorted through the principal streets.

THE President has nominated J. F. Perrotto, of California, Consul-General at St. Petersburg.

S. R. W. GILL, a prominent lawyer of Pittsburg, mysteriously disappeared from home about the middle of October, and it now turns out that some of his confiding clients are losers by him to the amount of over \$200,000, cash and convertible securities entrusted to his care.

CONRAD POPPENHAUSEN, an extensive manufacturer and heavy stockholder in Long Island railroads, has failed with liabilities of \$3,521,836, and nominal assets amounting to over \$7,000,000—the latter principally railroad securities.

THE Senate, on the 19th, confirmed a large number of appointments, among them being Chauncey I. Filley for Postmaster at St. Louis and Alonzo Bell for Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

DR. MARTIN KATNE, recently deceased, of New York City, left nearly his entire estate, valued at \$100,000 to Harvard College.

COL. ROBT. G. INGERSOLL has informed the Secretary of State that he does not desire his name to be used in connection with the Berlin Mission, as he does not want the position.

HON. JOHN S. HOFFMAN, formerly Judge of the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia, and a Colonel of the Thirty-third Virginia Infantry during the rebellion, died at Clarkburg on the 18th.

EX-MAYOR TAYLOR, of Frankfort, Ky., the well known distiller, who disappeared in May last, as supposed, on account of financial embarrassments and irregularities, has returned home and given bonds to appear for trial on the six indictments found against him.

THERE are intimations that Gen. Grant may be appointed to the Berlin Mission.

MR. HENRY L. PIERCE, Mr. Sumner's biographer, has been nominated for Mayor of Boston—an office which he has once filled.

WAR NEWS.

Suleiman Pasha has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Turkish armies in Roumelia-Aziz. Probably, Tazil Pasha will command the Army of Rasgrad. The active interference of Servia in the war is now almost certain.

Servia has declined to accede to the Porte's demands to withdraw her troops from the frontier, and fresh signs of military activity are multiplying. Additional Montenegrin successes are reported. Re-enforcements are said to be constantly arriving at Erzeroum, and the Turks claim to be able to hold the town.

A telegram from Erzeroum, 15th, contains the following: The Russians recaptured Fort Azize on Wednesday, but were immediately expelled. The inhabitants of Erzeroum have participated in recent fighting. The loss has been considerable. There is general enthusiasm. Russian cavalry have appeared north of Erzeroum. A Constantinople dispatch, same date, says the Russians have been repulsed near Kars, after prolonged fighting. There has been heavy snow in Asia. A council of war, under the presidency of the Sultan, decided to largely reinforce Mehmet Ali.

Additional particulars regarding the Russian assault on Fort Azize, state that it was a hand-to-hand fight for the trenches, when the fort was carried at the point of the bayonet, but Mehmet Pasha rallied the Turks, who retook the fort and repulsed the Russians, with great slaughter.

An official Russian dispatch of the 18th gives intelligence of the capture of Kars by storm. The battle lasted from 8 o'clock on Saturday night to 8 Sunday morning. A correspondent at Constantinople telegraphed on the 17th that a council, over which the Sultan presided, had agreed almost unanimously in favor of making an effort to put an end to the war, and that England will be asked to mediate in favor of peace.

Additional particulars regarding the capture of the fortress and City of Kars show that the Russian victory was complete, the entire armament of the place, comprising 300 cannon, together with stores, ammunition, etc., falling into their hands. They also captured 10,000 prisoners. The Turkish loss in killed and wounded is placed at 5,000, and that of the Russians at about 2,700. Gen. Lores Milikoff directed the battle, although the Grand Duke Michael was present throughout the engagement.

FORTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

In the Senate, on the 13th, bills were introduced—by Senator Garland: To authorize the election of a Delegate to Congress from the Indian Territory; by Senator Dorsey: To authorize the construction of a bridge across the Mississippi River at Memphis; also, making an appropriation for the improvement of the Arkansas River by removing the bar opposite Fort Smith; by Senator Cockrell: To remove the National Capital to some more central location; also, to repeal the Bankrupt laws. Senator Cockrell also presented a petition to build a Southern transcontinental railroad on the 32d and 33d parallels of latitude, from the Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean; also, to widen and deepen the channel of the Pacific Railroad, and spoke at length in regard to the subject. The resolution was laid over. The House occupied most of the day in Committee of the Whole, considering the Deficiency bill, which passed without division. The total sum appropriated by the bill is \$2,240,625, of which \$1,400,000 is for the Navy; \$511,934 for an amount due Scigman Bros., of London; \$45,000 for the Marine Corps. The bill also provides for the payment of United States Judges, etc. The bill for the repeal of the Resumption act was again considered. Messrs. Cliftenden and Monroe spoke against the bill and Mr. Kelley for it. Mr. Glover offered a resolution for investigations into all re departments of the Government—the same resolution that was adopted at the beginning of the last Congress. Referred.

In the Senate, on the 14th, a number of bills were introduced and referred. The House Army Appropriation bill, as amended by the Senate Committee, was reported and placed on the calendar. The amendments consist of the entire omission of the clause which provided that four cavalry regiments should be recruited to a full force of 1,200 men each, and kept in service on the Texas frontier, but that the total number of men on the army rolls should be limited to 20,000. The Senate Committee recommended the insertion in place of the mandatory provision concerning the use of troops in Texas of the following clause: "Cavalry regiments may be recruited to 100 men in each company, and kept as near as practicable to that number, and a sufficient force of cavalry shall be employed in defense of the Mexican and Indian frontiers of Texas." The Vice-President laid before the Senate a com-

munication from the President, inclosing the report of the Secretary of State, in reply to the Senate resolution of the 8th inst., in regard to the release of prisoners by an armed band from Mexico, from the Jail in Starr County, Texas. August last, when the House, considering the bill for the repeal of the Resumption act, was divided, and after a long debate the House adjourned without definite action.

In the Senate, on the 15th, a petition from 45 National banks of Boston against the bill for the remonetization of silver was presented by Senator Dawes. The Deficiency Appropriation bill, as reported from the House, was passed. Senator Bruce presented a petition of colored residents of Mississippi, asking an appropriation of \$100,000 to enable them to emigrate to Liberia. Referred. The Army Appropriation bill was passed with the amendments reported by the Committee on Appropriations, and also the amendments providing that the army shall not be increased beyond 23,000 men, instead of 30,000, as authorized by the House. In the House, bills were introduced and referred—by Mr. Haskell: Providing for the payment of duties on imports of gold, silver and legal tender notes; by Mr. Schiele: Providing for cheap transportation between New York and the Atlantic and the Ohio and Mississippi Valleys; by Mr. Mills: A memorial of the State Grange of Texas for the appointment of a Commissioner of Agriculture (as a Cabinet officer). The bill for the repeal of the Resumption act was further considered, a number of amendments and substitutes being proposed, and speeches made by Messrs. Eames, Ballou, Hubbell, Kelly, Harwell and others.

In the Senate, on the 16th, a resolution was offered by Senator Jones, and adopted with some modifications, requesting the President to furnish copies of instructions given to the agents and Marshals of the United States in Alabama, Florida and Mississippi touching the seizure of logs, lumber and naval stores suspected of having been taken from the public lands of the United States, etc. Adjourned till Monday. In the House, a resolution was adopted directing the Military Committee to inquire into the strength of the cavalry and infantry regiments of the army, and how many regiments are employed upon the Texas frontier, character of the troops employed there, military management of the frontier, and the Resumption of force in accordance with the Resumption of force from Mexican raiders. Consideration of the bill to repeal the Resumption act was resumed, and continued during the evening session.

The Senate was not in session on the 17th. In the House, the Army Appropriation bill, as amended by the Senate, was reported back, and the principal amendment, that fixing the army at 23,000 instead of 20,000 men, was agreed to—yeas, 134; nays, 130. All of the Texas members, with the exception of Mr. Eames, and the bill passed, and passed to the President for his signature. The House spent the entire day in Committee of the Whole. Mr. Springer in the chair, on the Paris Exposition bill.

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To Make a Telephone.

Take two empty oyster-cans and a stout, smooth string. Let a small hole be made in the bottom of each can, through which the string, say fifty or one hundred feet in length, is passed and secured. Then let the experimenters set up their talking telegraph by choosing their stations as far apart as the tightly stretched string will permit, and while one of the operators holds his ear to one of the cans, and his companion his mouth to the can of the other end of the line, they will find that a conversation can be carried on so that low tones and even a whisper will be distinctly perceptible. What usually most astonishes those who make this experiment for the first time, is that the sound of the voice does not seem to come from the person speaking at the other end of the string, but to issue from the can itself, which is held to the ear of the listener. This at first appears to be a deception, but it is really not so. The ear tells the exact truth. The voice that is heard really comes from the can that is held to the ear of the hearer. The voice of the speaker communicates sound-producing vibrations to the walls of the can with which his voice is in immediate contact. These vibrations are communicated to the string, but so changed that they no longer affect the ear. A person may stand by the string while the sound is passing, and yet hear nothing. At the other end of the string, however, these hidden vibrations reproduce themselves as sound.

Congressmen's Hair.

There are many who think that the last two Congresses are improvements on those that drew pay for the ten years prior to that time. There are fewer gray heads in the present House than in any previous one. Young men, or at least middle-aged men, predominate, though there are enough of gray heads to make the whole body look respectable, and give it the look of dignity that is so necessary. There are but two red heads. The far West sends one, and Connecticut the other. I counted sixty-four black heads on the floor, several days ago, on the Democratic side alone. Black and dark brown hair predominate on the Republican side, also. There are six pure blondes, and only six. As usual, all wear black clothes. There are two or three exceptions, however, Fernando Wood and Clarkson N. Potter, of New York, having appeared several times on the floor in gray plaid suits.—Washington Letter.

THERE lives in Tennessee a Methodist minister known as Greenberry Kelly, who is 99 years old, in good health, and expects to preach a centennial sermon on his next birthday.